

Message Text

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USICA

FOR: USICA FOR PGM/RC, STATE FOR ARA

E.O. 11652: N/A
SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION: BONN SUMMIT AND BAKKE DECISION

1. FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF AN EDITORIAL ON THE BONN
ECONOMIC SUMMIT WHICH APPEARED MORNING OF 19 JULY IN
GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED JAMAICA DAILY NEWS UNDER THE HEADLINE:
"ROLE OF THE THIRD WORLD".

2. BEGIN TEXT: ON THE BASIS OF REPORTS COMING OUT OF
THE BONN ECONOMIC SUMMIT, THERE IS LITTLE INDICATION OF
THE ROLE THE DEVELOPED WEST EXPECTS THE POORER DEVELOPING
WORLD TO PLAY IN ITS PROGRAMME FOR WORLD "ECONOMIC RECOVERY."

IT IS GROWING INCREASINGLY APPARENT THAT THIS ECONOMIC
RECOVERY, AS SEEN BY THE METROPOLITAN WEST, MUST TAKE IN
FUNDAMENTAL ASPECTS OF THE RESTRUCTURING OF TRADE RELATIONS
BETWEEN THE RICH AND THE POOR.

WE HOPE THAT IF THEY HAVE NOT ALREADY THOUGHT OF THIS,
THAT THE LEADERS OF THE INDUSTRIALISED WEST SUCH AS
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PRESIDENT JIMMY CARTER AND CHANCELOH HELMUT SCHMIDT WILL
TAKE COGNIZANCE OF THIS.

IT DOES NOT MAKE MUCH SENSE FOR THE WELL BEING OF THE
DEVELOPING WORLD IF THE METROPOLITAN POWERS CONFINE THEIR
WORLD ECONOMIC RECOVERY TO DEALING WITH HOW THEY WILL,
FOR EXAMPLE, TRADE WITH THE REST OF THE WORLD.

THE NEEDS OF THE OTHER PART OF THE WORLD MUST BE A
FUNDAMENTAL INGREDIENT IN THE DELIBERATIONS OF THE RICH
COUNTRIES. END TEXT.

3. UNTIL THE MORNING OF 19 JULY THE JAMAICAN MEDIA HAD
PAID LITTLE OR NO ATTENTION TO THE BAKKE DECISION SINCE THE
APPEARANCE OF A BRIEF REUTER-CANA DESPATCH ON DECISION DAY.
THIS MORNING, THE DAILY GLEANER DEVOTED A THIRD OF ITS
EDITORIAL PAGE TO REPUBLICATION OF THE TIME MAG REPORT OF
JULY 10 UNDER THE HEADLINE: "HISTORIC CIVIL RIGHTS
RULING". THE ARTICLE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY A COMMENTARY
BY DR. CARL STONE, A REGULAR CONTRIBUTOR AND JAMAICA'S
LEADING POLLSTER. FOLLOWING IS FULL TEXT OF STONE'S
COMMENTARY. THE COMMENTARY WAS HEADLINED: "THAT CONSERVATIVE
BACKLASH."

4. BEGIN TEXT: THE DECISION BY THE UNITED STATES SUPREME
COURT ON THE MUCH PUBLICISED BAKKE CASE MUST BE SEEN AS A
LAND MARK INDICATING THE END OF AN ERA OF LIBERALISM
ON THE RACIAL QUESTION IN THAT COUNTRY.

THE SUPREME COURT WAS CENTRAL IN AIDING AND SETTING IN
MOTION THE LIBERAL COALITION OF WHITE MIDDLE CLASS
AND BLACK INTERESTS THAT HAVE DONE EVERYTHING POSSIBLE
(WITHIN THE LIMITS OF A WHITE RACIST SOCIETY) TO REMOVE
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THE STIGMA AND ROAD-BLOCKS OF DISCRIMINATION THAT HAVE
OPPRESSED THE NON-WHITES IN THE U.S. IT IS THEREFORE NOT
SURPRISING THAT THE SUPREME COURT SHOULD NOW BE PLAYING AN
EQUALLY PROMINENT ROLE BURYING THOSE ILLUSIONS ABOUT RESCUING
NON-WHITES FROM A LEGACY OF INSTITUTIONALISED RACISM.

UNDERLYING ALL THE TYPICAL LEGAL OBFUSCATION AND DOUBLE TALK,
THE COURT'S DECISION AGAINST RACIAL QUOTAS (DESIGNED TO
CORRECT THE IMBALANCE OF OPPORTUNITY IN THE UNITED STATES
AND THE HISTORICAL LEGACY OF DISADVANTAGE THAT WEIGHS HEAVILY
ON NON-WHITES) HAS GIVEN THE SEAL OF APPROVAL TO THE GROWING
TREND AMONG AMERICAN WHITES TO ABANDON ANY EFFORTS TO CORRECT
RACIAL IMBALANCES.

ON THIS AND ON A NUMBER OF OTHER QUESTIONS SUCH AS SOCIAL
WELFARE, FREE SPEECH, MINORITY RIGHTS, FOREIGN POLICY
AND GOVERNMENT SPENDING, THE MOOD OF WHITE WORKING CLASS
AND MIDDLE CLASS UNITED STATES HAS SWUNG DECISIVELY TO
THE RIGHT AND TOWARDS CONSERVATISM. THIS BLACKLASH OF
CONSERVATISM IN MAINSTREAM WHITE USA IS CURIOUSLY PARALLELED
BY A PREDOMINANCE OF CONSERVATIVE AND RIGHT WING
GOVERNMENTS AND RULING GROUPS IN THIS NEW WORLD HEMISPHERE.

ITS IMPLICATION IS THAT THE ROAD AHEAD IS GOING TO BE EVEN MORE DIFFICULT FOR DISADVANTAGED GROUPS, NATIONS, CLASSES, AND INTERESTS TO BARGAIN FOR A BETTER DEAL FROM THOSE WHO CONTROL AND INFLUENCE THE CENTRES OF POWER.

THIS PATTERN OF A CONSERVATIVE ENCIRCLEMENT IN THE HEMISPHERE PARALLELS THE GROWING ANTI-SOCIALIST AND CONSERVATIVE BACKLASH HERE THAT HAS FOLLOWED ON THE HEELS OF THE ECONOMIC FAILURES OF THE PNP GOVERNMENT.
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TO BE SURE, MUCH OF THE ACTION THAT WAS MOUNTED IN THE LIBERAL FIGHT AGAINST RACISM IN THE U.S.A. WAS SUPERFICIAL AND DID NOT FUNDAMENTALLY AFFECT THE RELATIVE DEPRIVATION OF NON-WHITE GROUPS IN THE SOCIETY. THE GAINS WENT MAINLY TO A SMALL PROPORTION OF THE NON-WHITE MIDDLE CLASS AND MIDDLE CLASS ASPIRANTS WHO BROKE INTO NEW PROFESSIONAL AREAS AND THROUGH THE DIFFICULT BARRIERS TO HIGHER EDUCATION.

THE PROGRESS ACHIEVED WAS SHORT LIVED BECAUSE AFTER ACTUAL POLICIES IN THE AREAS OF HOUSING, SCHOOL INTEGRATION, UNIVERSITY PLACEMENT, JOB TRAINING AND ENTRY INTO RACIALLY CLOSED ARTISAN TRADES BEGAN TO ADVERSELY AFFECT BOTH WORKING CLASS AND MIDDLE CLASS WHITES, WHITE SUPPORT FOR THE LIBERAL COALITION DIED AN EXPECTED NATURAL DEATH. THE SUPREME COURT'S DECISION IS MERELY HAMMERING IN THE NAILS IN THE COFFIN.

THE ECONOMIC CLIMATE IN THE UNITED STATES IS NOT UNRELATED TO THIS CONSERVATIVE BACKLASH. JOBS ARE SCARCER THAN THEY USED TO BE, COMPETITION FOR LIMITED UNIVERSITY PLACES

HAS INCREASED. INFLATION IS PLAYING HAVOC WITH LARGE SECTIONS OF THE MIDDLE CLASS AND PUSHING THEM BACK DOWN THE CLASS SCALE. AS THE ECONOMIC SQUEEZE TIGHTENS LIBERALISM TURNS TO REACTION AND CONSERVATISM AND THE DOMINANT RACIAL UNCLASSIFIED

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'TRIBES' AND CLASSES DIG IN TO HOLD ON TO THEIR SHARE OF THE NATIONAL CAKE.

AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY WILL NOT AND CANNOT BE PURSUED WITHOUT REFERENCE TO THESE DOMESTIC POLITICAL TRENDS. THE UNITED STATES APPROACH TO THE THIRD WORLD, LATIN AMERICA AND THE CARIBBEAN WILL IN MY VIEW RETURN VERY SHORTLY TO SOME OF THE MORE CONSERVATIVE HARD-LINE POSITIONS WHICH HAVE BEEN SOFTENING IN SOME AREAS UNDER PRESIDENT FORD (TO A LIMITED EXTENT) AND MORESO UNDER PRESIDENT CARTER.

THE FATE OF THE NON-WHITE STRUGGLE FOR A FAIR DEAL IN THE UNITED STATES IS ORGANICALLY LINKED TO THE FATE OF THIRD WORLD INTERESTS SEEKING FOR A BETTER DEAL FROM THE CENTRES OF WORLD CAPITALISM. THE HARDENING OF CONSERVATISM IN ONE AREA ALSO POINTS TO A LIKELY HARDENING OF CONSERVATISM IN THE OTHER. WHITE AMERICAN HOSTILITY TO FOREIGN AID, TRADE LIBERALISATION AND ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES PARALLELS THE HOSTILITY IN THE UNITED STATES TOWARDS WELFARE AND SOCIAL PROGRAMMES DESIGNED TO BENEFIT NON-WHITES. THE ANTI-TAXATION MOVEMENT IS NOT SIMPLY A FIGHT AGAINST BIG GOVERNMENT BUT MASKS A RESENTMENT AGAINST SOCIAL EXPERIMENTATION BY THE FEDERAL AND STATE GOVERNMENTS IN AREAS DESIGNED TO ASSIST DISADVANTAGED 'ETHNIC TRIBES' IN THAT COUNTRY. THESE TENDENCIES ARE NOT THE PRODUCTS OF CAPITALISTS OR MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS BUT OF THE DEFENCE MECHANISMS THAT SEEK TO PROTECT THE PRIVILEGES OF THOSE 'RACIAL TRIBES' WHO ARE AHEAD. THESE DEFENCE MECHANISMS ARE STRONGEST AMONG WORKING CLASS AND POOR WHITES.

IN A SIMILAR MANNER THE RELATIVELY PRIVILEGED WHITE WORKING CLASS OF NORTH AMERICA AND WESTERN EUROPE WILL NOT SIT IDLY BY AND ALLOW LIBERAL OR SOCIALIST PARTY AND GOVERNMENT UNCLASSIFIED

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LEADERS TO SURRENDER TOO MUCH OF THEIR MATERIAL PRIVILEGES TO THE THIRD WORLD.

THE STRUGGLE FOR THE NEW WORLD ECONOMIC ORDER IS LIKELY TO FACE ROADBLOCKS VERY SIMILAR TO THOSE FACED BY THE

CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT IN THE U.S., WHICH CULMINATED IN THE
HISTORIC BAKKE DECISION BY THE SUPREME COURT. END TEXT.
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